

Appl. No. 10/565,507
Amendment dated: October 22, 2009
Reply to OA of: April 22, 2009

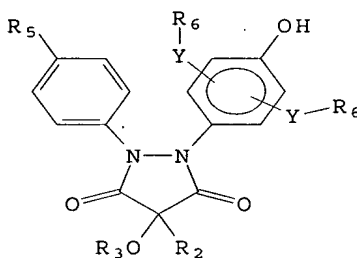
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1(cancelled).

2(cancelled).

3(currently amended). A compound ~~as claimed in claim 1~~ of formula III;

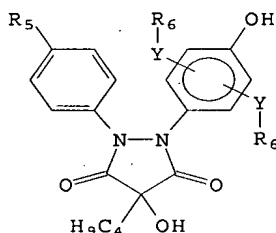


(III)

wherein ~~Y, R₂, and R₃ are described in claim 1 or claim 2 and R₅ is hydrogen or an alkyl, alkenyl group, OH, O-alkyl, O-acyl, SH, S-alkyl, S-acyl, halo, or amino group~~ one Y group is S and the other is either H (in which case only one R₆ group is present) or S, R₂ is hydrogen or a C₁-C₁₀ organic group attached by a carbon atom, R₃ is hydrogen or is a hydroxyl or thiol protecting group R₅ is hydrogen or an alkyl, alkenyl group, OH, O-alkyl, O-acyl, SH, S-alkyl, S-acyl, halo, or amino group and and R₆ is, independently, an organic group of molecular weight up to around 500 amu.

Appl. No. 10/565,507
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4(currently amended). A compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 of formula IV, or a salt thereof;



(IV)

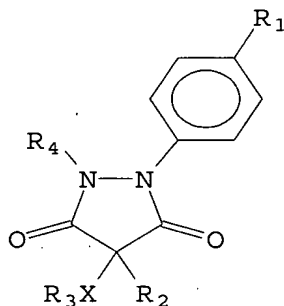
wherein R₅ is hydrogen or OH and each R₆ is, independently, a cysteine or a glutathione moiety attached via the sulphur atom thereof.

5(currently amended). A compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein both Y-R₆ groups are S-R₆.

6(currently amended). A compound of ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein the two Y groups are ortho to the OH group R₄.

7(currently amended). A compound of ~~claim 1~~ claim 3 wherein one Y group is ortho to group R₁ and one Y group is meta to the OH group R₄.

8(currently amended). A compound formed by reaction of a thiol (R₆-SH) with a starting material of formula II

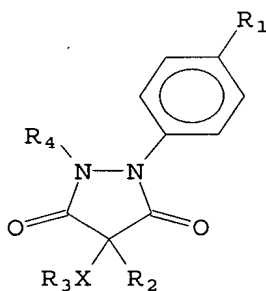


(II)

Appl. No. 10/565,507
Amendment dated: October 22, 2009
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wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and X are as defined in ~~claim 1~~claim 3 or protected derivatives or precursors thereof.

9(currently amended). A method for the synthesis of a compound of claim 3 said method comprising reaction of a thiol (R_6 -SH) with a starting material of formula II.



(II)

wherein R_1 , R_2 , R_3 , R_4 , R_6 and X are as defined in any of ~~claim 1~~claim 3, or protected derivatives or precursors thereof.

10(currently amended). A method of treatment of a mammalian subject comprising administering a compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 3.

11(currently amended). A method for the for treatment, prevention or control of a viral, autoimmune, neoplastic, inflammatory and/or allergic condition, said method comprising administration of a compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 3.

12(currently amended). A method of tonic treatment of an aging mammalian subject, or a subject suffering from the aftereffects of infection, disease or treatment, said method comprising administration of a compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 3.

Appl. No. 10/565,507
Amendment dated: October 22, 2009
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13(currently amended). A compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 3 for use in therapy.

14(cancelled).

15(currently amended). A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 3 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable excipient, carrier or diluent.

16(currently amended). A functional or fortified food comprising a compound as claimed in ~~claim 1~~claim 3 formulated in an edible food or potable beverage product.

17(new). A compound as claimed in claim 6, wherein R₅ is hydrogen.